

US009636685B2

(12) United States Patent

Pirttiniemi et al.

(54) METHOD AND AN ARRANGEMENT FOR DETERMINING A DEGREE OF FULLNESS OF A LARGE GRINDING MILL DRUM, AND A LARGE GRINDING MILL DRUM

(71) Applicant: **OUTOTEC (FINLAND) OY**, Espoo

(FI)

(72) Inventors: Jukka Pirttiniemi, Helsinki (FI); Esa

Porkka, Nurmes (FI); Nikolai Vatanski, Espoo (FI)

(73) Assignee: **OUTOTEC** (FINLAND) **OY**, Espoo

(FI)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 15/305,250

(22) PCT Filed: Apr. 27, 2015

(86) PCT No.: **PCT/FI2015/050288**

§ 371 (c)(1),

(2) Date: Oct. 19, 2016

(87) PCT Pub. No.: WO2015/166140

PCT Pub. Date: Nov. 5, 2015

(65) Prior Publication Data

US 2017/0036213 A1 Feb. 9, 2017

(30) Foreign Application Priority Data

(51) Int. Cl.

 B02C 17/22
 (2006.01)

 B02C 17/18
 (2006.01)

 B02C 25/00
 (2006.01)

(52) U.S. Cl.

 (10) Patent No.: US 9,636,685 B2

(45) **Date of Patent:**

May 2, 2017

(58) Field of Classification Search

CPC B02C 17/22; B02C 17/1805; B02C 25/00 See application file for complete search history.

(56) References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,360,174 A 11/1994 Persson 6,874,364 B1 4/2005 Campbell et al. (Continued)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

CL WO 2012080817 A2 * 6/2012 B02C 17/1805 CL WO2012090173 A2 * 7/2012 B02C 17/1805

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

International Search Report issued by the European Patent Office in relation to PCT/FI2015/050288 dated Jul. 15, 2015 (4 pages).

(Continued)

Primary Examiner — Mark Rosenbaum (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Robert P. Michal, Esq.;

Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP

(57) ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to the field of mineral and metallurgical processes, to disintegrating in general and to disintegrating by tumbling mills, and more particularly to a method and arrangement for determining a degree of fullness of a large grinding mill drum, and to a large grinding mill drum. An arrangement for determining a degree of fullness of a grinding mill drum has a sensor arrangement attached to at least one lifting bar bolt of an at least one lifting bar of the grinding mill. The sensor arrangement includes at least one force transducer attached to the at least one lifting bar bolt. With the help of the measurement arrangement, more reliable measurement data can be provided for the determination of the degree of fullness of a grinding mill drum.

11 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets

